XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
WA6-2034;TR4-4246

20734

November 16, 1966

Dear Mr. Fremont-Smith,

At the risk of losing what benefit might accrue to have discovered the medium that does not give you offense ("funny") I abandon it for reptition of the question: please tell us, in the Times, or even just me, by letter, what great benefit flows from the placing in the archive of the pictures and Xrays now said to be those of the assassination of three years ago.

You may, as you have, credit Epstein with this accomplishment. I would suggest that it came about despite the addications of the printed press and because of the pressures put upon various people by the electronic media, especially by Mark Lane and me on it, and not as a national boon but as a combination continued suppression and public-relations ploy. Frankly, I am astounded that one of your deep and penatrating understanding of this entire field, your total recall of the fact of which you write with such force and eloquence, and above all your clear grasp of the political realities of our day and this situation, allowed this possibility to escape you.

In this event your refernce is exclusive of that other great ennoblement of the national heritage, the transfer of certain dcouments and objects from the west side of Ninth Street to its East, from the Department of Justice to the Archives, first let me give Epstein credit for that, too, for you (ably assisted by your gracious colleagues) have taught me it is better to give than to receive and I am by now quite happy with the attribution to others of what I first did (and often did alone).

So I would like to broaden the question, giving it two parts, and I humbly look forward to the edifying explanation that you can no doubt summon.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

For your piece on the effect of reviewers, I would ebcourage you to broaden it also from what I had in mind and canvass the wholesalers to compare the sales of Inquest in the metropolitan New York area with those of WHITEWASH the week Epstein enjoyed Goodwin's review and I was, customarily, ignored in the papers. I will be honest with you: I know the answer.